



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/723,780	11/28/2000	Pawan Chaturvedi	70000000-0005	6845

7590

02/15/2005

Attn: Harley R. Ball  
Sprint Law Department  
8140 Ward Parkway  
Mailstop: MOKCMP0506  
Kansas City, MO 64114

EXAMINER

CHAN, WING F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2643

DATE MAILED: 02/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/723,780

Applicant(s)

CHATURVEDI ET AL.

Examiner

Wing F. Chan

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 November 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 2643

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 1-12 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-26 of copending Application No. 09/723,790. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims are directed to the same invention of providing telephone call message translation between parties of a telephone call.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Art Unit: 2643

Claim 1 is a single step claim, e.g. the claim recited "providing a communication...one of an Internet Protocol connection and network connection", which is a single step recitation that does not appear in combination with another recited step, and thus encompasses all possible conceivable means for performing a stated function. It is a claim, which depends on a recited property, a factual situation comparable to Hyatt; where the claim covers every conceivable step for achieving the stated property (result) while the specification discloses at most only those known to the inventor. Therefore, the specification is non-enabling for failing to disclose all possible steps for performing the stated function. In re Hyatt, 708 F.2d 712, 714-715, 218 USPQ 195, 197 (Fed. Cir. 1983).

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bossi et al (US PAT. NO. 6,421,425 filed 8/17/98, hereinafter Bossi).

As to claim 1, Bossi discloses a system and method for providing telephone call message translation via a relay center 103 having message translator. Bossi teaches

an Internet caller (first party) 102 accesses the ISP server 121 to establish a connection (communication link) via a message translator (protocol conversion server 113) to a called party (101) via one of an Internet protocol connection and data network (e.g. Internet 120). For example see Figs. 13, 4, col. 6 lines 3-27. Also, the communications link is provided when the first party 102 is the called party, e.g. see Figs. 2, 3, col. 4 line 38 to col. 6 line 2.

As to claim 2, note the communication link between called party 102 and message translator (protocol conversion server 113) is provided by communications carrier network 103.

As to claims 3, 7, 8, see Fig. 1, where ISP server 121 is the claimed server for providing an Internet protocol or network connection, computer 102 is the Internet communication device to the first party, an Internet connection is established between the first party and the server 121, a plain text connection is established between the server 120 and the relay center 104 which includes a message translator 113, PBX 105 is the claimed switching device for completing the communication link.

As to claim 4, note col. 6 lines 10-15, Fig. 4 steps 402-404.

As to claims 5, 6, see Fig. 2 steps 201-206, col. 4 line 38 to col. 5 line 18 for example.

As to claim 9, see Fig. 1, where relay center 104 comprises a message translator 113, computer 102 is the Internet communication device to the first party, ISP server is the claimed server having a front end (not shown, but inherent) for Internet protocol

Art Unit: 2643

connection and a backend (not shown, but inherent) for establishing a connection to the relay center.

As to claims 10, 11, note PBX 105.

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Alcendor et al (US PAT. NO. 6,546,082 filed May 2, 2000, hereinafter Alcendor).

Alcendor discloses a system and method for allowing a hearing/speech-impaired person to speak to the called party (destination) via the Internet. Alcendor teaches the hearing/speech-impaired person uses a computer terminal 104 using Internet protocol and network connection to establish a call to the called party using text to speech, speech to text capabilities of the relay center, and the center dials out to the called party via the PSTN. In Alcendor Fig. 1, all elements to the right of the PSTN/INTERNET 108 is the server, switching devices, etc. Note abstract, all Figs., col. 3 line 20 to col. 9 line 56.

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bossi in view of Srinivasan (US PAT. NO. 6,717,936).

As to claim 11, Bossi differs from the claimed invention in not disclosing the server front end comprises a web server, and the back end comprises an access server for telephone access. However, it is old and well known in the art for an ISP server to comprise a telephone access interface [access server], and a WWW interface [web server], for example see Srinivasan Figs. 1, 2, col. 1 line 50 to col. 2 line 2. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the ISP server in Bossi to comprise the claimed front end and back end servers in order to provide communication between the PSTN and the Internet as is conventional in the art.

9. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alcendor in view of Srinivasan (US PAT. NO. 6,717,936).


As to claim 11, Alcendor differs from the claimed invention in not disclosing the server front end comprises a web server, and the back end comprises an access server for telephone access. However, it is old and well known in the art for an ISP server to comprise a telephone access interface [access server], and a WWW interface [web server], for example see Srinivasan Figs. 1, 2, col. 1 line 50 to col. 2 line 2. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the ISP server in Alcendor to comprise the claimed front end and back end servers in order to provide communication between the PSTN and the Internet as is conventional in the art.

Art Unit: 2643

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wing F. Chan whose telephone number is 703-305-4732. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Wing F. Chan  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2643

12/16/04